## **NEWS FROM SCDCA**

South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
2007 CONSUMER SPIRIT AWARD DEADLINE EXTENDED

Columbia, SC......The Department of Consumer Affairs is now accepting nominations for the 2007 Consumer Spirit Awards. The deadline for nominations has been extended to January 26, 2007. The Consumer Spirit Awards are awarded annually to recognize individuals and organizations that empower South Carolinians through consumer protection and education initiatives. All individuals, organizations, and businesses are encouraged to participate.

Winners will be honored at a ceremony in February. Awards will be given in the following categories: Organization Leadership Award, Dublin/Robinson Consumer Champion Award, Governmental Excellence Award, and Media Partnership Award. A panel of representatives from various communities, governmental agencies, media outlets and past winners will serve as judges. Judging criteria is as follows:

- Strategy: The nominee must demonstrate knowledge of and solutions for consumer needs.
- Execution: The nominee must complete their strategy honestly and professionally.
- Originality: The nominee must implement creative, innovative methods to help consumers.
- Results: The nominee's efforts must directly benefit South Carolina consumers.

Past winners include: Founders Federal Credit Union (Lancaster), Ann McGill (WCSC-TV, Charleston), Margaret Brackett (Radio Talk Show Host, Newberry), John C. Ruoff, Ph.D. (South Carolina Fair Share), and Jan L. Warner (ElderLaw Services of South Carolina).

Award information and <u>application forms</u> are attached. For additional information, contact the Public Information & Education Division at 803.734.4190, toll free at 1.800.922.1594, or online at <u>www.scconsumer.gov</u>.